

# THE HUMOROUS SIDE OF LIFE.

CURIOUS CONCEPTS OF THE FUNNY MEN SEEN AND DESCRIBED.

The Mayor.  
The First Piper of Mulberry Street.  
Dr. Harkness.  
The Mayor's secretary.  
Chester George.  
Liquor dealers, citizens, policemen and gum-shoe detectives.

SCENE I.—CITY HALL.  
[Curtain rises with chorus of citizens gazing into the wings and singing sweet lullaby.]

LULLABY BY CITIZENS' CHORUS.  
Sweet and low  
Sweet and low  
Over the City Hall.  
Breathe and blow,  
Breathe and blow—

[The rest is drowned by the wheezing of rushing wind, and a moment later the Mayor's secretary and Mayor float in on a weekly talk hot-air cloud. When the wind subsides the Mayor is in the centre of the stage and the citizens are grouped respectfully in the background. Mayor sings.]

MAYOR'S SONG.  
This city has the honor of possessing me for  
In electing me the people showed discrimination  
I receive congratulations from one and all  
I congratulate them heartily upon this show  
of taste.

For if they had done otherwise they'd surely  
be disgraced.

[Mayor pauses and beams around him ruddy. Delegation of liquor dealers and police officers receive congratulations from one and all. The Mayor stretches forth his hand, but suddenly withdraws.]

Mayor—Hold! Before this fair, fat hand be tainted by your contaminating touch, tell me, is it true, as Dame Rumor has it, that ye are nought but a scurvy bunch of blackmailing crooks? Answer me that, sir!

Mayor turns on heel. Liquor dealers shake their heads and enumerate the cities of Holland beginning with Amsterdam and ending with the Mayor's name.]

Leader of Liquor Dealers—Hold! You cannot put us off in this unseemly manner. We demand as citizens to know your policy. Mayor—Policy? Policy? Do you take this for a policy song? Policy is illegal, sir. This administration will not permit any policy. Ha, ha! But stay. I will be magnanimous.

[Mayor nods to leader of police band orchestra and starts to sing.]

MAYOR'S SONG.  
I advocate a liberal enforcement  
Of the ordinances enacted with my indorsement.

While ye for laws that have my disapproval  
The cop who sees them keep my fear removal.

CITIZENS' CHORUS.  
Re-mov-al.  
The cop who sees them keep my fear removal.

Mayor (to Liquor Dealers)—So you gentlemen, I really have well-formed opinions on the subject. As you take I was elected on a reform ticket—be, be—you must really excuse me while I go to reform the opinions which I have already formed—ha, ha.

The Mayor, still chuckling, is washed on the stage by a flood of tears from the liquor dealers, who float out after him. Dr. Harkness follows forward.]

DR. HARKNESS'S SONG.  
This beviled-edge reform is on the bum.  
You need an active, armpit-plated man.  
A man to put the crooks all on the run.  
[With shrilling modesty.]  
Of course, I'm glad to help whenever I can.

CITIZENS' CHORUS.  
Of course, he's glad to help whenever he can—can—can.

Of course, he's glad to help whenever he can—can—can.

Of course, he's glad to help whenever he can—can—can.

End of scene.

SCENE II.—POLICE HEADQUARTERS.  
[Enter the First Piper of Mulberry Street playing "Roll Up." As he pipes, policemen run on from all wings and fall in behind him. After marching them into the stage three times he lines them up facing a audience. Then looking them over critically the Piper sings.]

THE PIPER'S SONG.  
The crooks must go.  
The crooks must go.  
Enough of all this foolish muck.  
You think because  
You're a good fellow  
That I'll stand for your conduct shocking.

[During the singing of this verse the Piper selects several policemen from one end of the stage and transfers them to the other, and vice versa. Several captains retire from the scene voluntarily.]

The Piper—Now after that little shake-up for the good of the service, perhaps

a citizen who had declined to leave the sidewalk and walk in the roadway at his command.

"The mountaineer got back into the mountains without delay and although a posse of citizens chased him they didn't get near him. All of the local detective talent was used to capture this man without success."

"Then the citizens took the unusual course of appealing to the mountaineers to give him up. This failed, too, and people were beginning to think that the murder was curdling tales from the mountains. After an appropriate amount of shuddering over the stories, the man from the North inquired why the perpetrators of all these terrible deeds were never punished."

"He got the money and spent most of it that night around the saloons treating all sorts of queer strangers to drinks. He struck up a friendship with a couple of mountaineers who, seeing that he was a Northern man proceeded to fill him up with blood-curdling tales from the mountains. After an appropriate amount of shuddering over the stories, the man from the North inquired why the perpetrators of all these terrible deeds were never punished."

"Well," said one of the mountain men, "it's this way. You can't get the mountaineer man into the city and it ain't healthy for a citizen to chase him out into the mountains. See?"

"Never come in the city?" said the man from the North.

"Never," said the mountaineer. "Why, there's men I know out in the mountains here that's never been in town in their lives, and some of them has got good whiskey too."

"No, sir, put in the other mountain man, 'they ain't puttin' but a circus in the mountains. I've seen as many as twenty men that the law was after and had been after for years in town at once at a circus.'"

"The man from the North blushed more deeply, and then said good night. The next day he hired a team and started out into the mountains."

"Twenty miles from town he began to throw from his wagon large printed announcements that a circus would be in town three days later. This was a waste of energy, but of course he didn't know that not one mountaineer in a hundred can read."

"However, he made up for this by telling every bewildered ruffian he met about the great circus that was coming to town, and satisfied at the end of the day that he reported to the chief of police what he had done and asked for three men who knew the murderer to accompany him to the outskirts of the city, where they could catch every mountaineer that came in."

"Here enough on the morning of the third day the mountaineers began to come into town. The news that the circus was in town and deliberately put a bullet through

the townpeople threw up their hands, and there wasn't anything more said about arresting mountaineers for murder, until one night a busy moonshine, full of his whiskey, came into a small town and deliberately put a bullet through

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## THE JOYS OF COURTSHIP IN COLONIAL DAYS.



Priscilla—Why don't you speak for yourself, John?  
Bear—Yes, John, you always were backward. Just watch me hug her.

## FUN OF THE COLLEGE BOYS.

Motto of the Collector.  
Never put off until to-morrow what can be done to-day.—Harvard Lampoon.

Punishment.  
"What ails the porter?"  
"His young daughter wines all the time, and he is going home to liquor."—Princeton Tiger.

Of Long Standing.  
First New York Girl—Is your acquaintance with Jack of long standing?  
Second, Ditto—Yes, I rode up town with him in the elevated.—Harvard Lampoon.

To Be Expected.  
Giraffe—Brother Gorilla is uproarious! Leopards—He's full of animal spirits.—Princeton Tiger.

No Danger.  
"Now, Reginald!" cried Mr. Smith.  
"Don't point that empty gun."  
"It isn't empty, father dear."  
"It's loaded," said the son.  
—Columbia Jester.

Generous.  
Quicker—Well, I've thought some of establishing a similar system, only more so. I'd be willing to donate a copy of my works to every city, town and village that would guarantee to set aside \$3,000 every year to build a library around it and keep it in order.

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## Purity in Amateur Athletics.

Fernier's Wife—If you saw that wood I'll give you a good, hot dinner.  
Muddy Mike—I'd do it gladly, ma'am, if I wasn't afraid that it might endanger my amateur standing. Sawin' wood for a recompense savors too much of the professional.

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## READ BAD LUCK IN THE CARDS.

Mr. Kneekamp Learns a New Game and a Hobe Gets a New Overcoat.

Oit, the cigar man, was telling Bros. the barber, that he had invented a new fish-catching machine when Waldbauer, the baker, walked into Kneekamp's saloon and introduced to the Pinochle Club an elderly, mysterious-looking man.

"Henry," said the baker, "I want to introduce you to Prof. Gladhanderino, the wonderful cartomancer."

"I am pleased to meet you, Mr. Kneekamp," remarked the club's standard bearer, grasping the professor's hand. "Our club invitation you to explanation dot new fortune telling pinochle game. Let me introduce you to my friend der barber, Mr. Bros, dot is Prof. Kleptomaniac."

"How is business with you?" inquired the barber, shaking the hand of the professor. "He is not a kleptomaniac," explained Waldbauer, "he's a cartomancer."

"Dot's all right," replied the barber. "I guess we all come from der same lucrative saylum, anyhow. All der world is a stage as Shakespin says, and der actors are der players. Come, what are you going to drink?"

"I seldom take anything," answered the professor, "but whiskey is an evil and I am on this mortal coil especially to remove evil influences."

After they had drinks all around the professor explained the new game. Kneekamp dealt the cards, turning the queen of diamonds as trump.

"Ah," said the professor, "the queen of diamonds signifies an ill-bred, scandal-loving woman and one to be feared."

"Dot is a misdeal," shouted Kneekamp, grabbing up the cards and proceeding to deal them over. Then he turned up the queen of spades.

"That denotes a dangerous, malicious widow," explained the professor. "I am not acquainted with her," remarked Kneekamp.

"Well," continued the professor, "it may refer to the person who lays down the deuce to pick up that card."

"She can die afore I put down my deuce," remarked Bros.

"Me, too," said Oit.

"Yes," said a hundred acres, added Kneekamp, laying down his cards.

"Four acres signify danger, failure in business or imprisonment," explained the professor.

"Wait a minute," shouted Kneekamp excitedly, "when I don't need to meid I can a question ask you, dot?"

"Certainly," said the professor, "ask and I shall answer."

"Why I got such a hard luck," "Because you use too much sugar in your coffee," explained the professor.

"Will I travel across water?" asked the barber.

"Yes," said the professor, "you will cross the Black Sea in a red automobile."

"Uncle vital I do!" asked Kneekamp. "You will put your thumb upon your trust," answered the professor.

"Vell," said Kneekamp, "you can't ring up on der cash register. I guess I meid twenty diamonds."

"King of diamonds represents a fair man, dangerous and cunning," explained the professor. "The queen signifies an ill-bred, scandal-loving woman, and one to be feared."

"Den I don't meld no diamonds," remarked Kneekamp, picking up his cards.

"I were just going to meld diamonds for twenty," added Bros.

"Well, you can safely meld them," said the professor, "because the cards are reversed."

"Have I got a dark secret?" "You may think it is a secret," explained the professor, "but it's a joke."

"Can I catch fish with a deuce of spades?" asked Oit.

"Only dead ones," replied the professor. "The kind you catch in the fish market."

"What will I meld for good news?" asked Kneekamp.

"One hundred and fifty trumps when clubs are trump."

"Meld by der time der game is over," said Kneekamp.

"Well, I don't believe in dreams," said Oit. "When a man dreams of animals it's always a sign he's been drinking the night before."

"We ain't playing dream pinochle," explained the barber. "We are playing, fortune teller pinochle. Ain't it, professor?"